



Docket No. ORT 1531

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Cheung, et al.

Serial No. : 10/037,369

Art Unit: 6789

Filed : November 7, 2001

Examiner: Michael Meller

For : AQUEOUS SUSTAINED-RELEASE FORMULATIONS OF PROTEINS

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

March 17, 2003

(Date)

Myra H. McCormack

Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative

Myra H. McCormack
(Signature)

March 17, 2003

(Date of Signature)

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TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Hon. Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT


Dear Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed February 19, 2003, the time for responding being March 19, 2003, Applicants elect the examination of Group I, claims 1 to 6 directed to a composition. Applicants traverse this rejection. Group I and II are directed to the composition and method for making the composition. The search and examination of such claims do not place an undue burden on the Examiner.

Applicants further elect the species of epoietin alpha. Again, election of the species should not be required. All members of the erythropoietin family are expected to have similar activities and utilities when placed in the formulation of claim 1.

Favorable consideration of this application during Examination is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions he is invited to contact the under signed at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,


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Dated: March 17, 2003